

12th September, 1960.

COCOM Document No. 4137

COORDINATING COMMITTEE

RECORD OF DISCUSSION

ON

PROPOSED UNITED KINGDOM EXPORT OF INFRA-RED

DETECTOR CELLS TO POLAND

8th September 1960

Present: Belgium(Luxembourg), France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States.

References: COCOM Documents 3765, 3803, 3852, 3995 and 4017.

1. The UNITED STATES Delegate stated that, on the basis of further information supplied by the United Kingdom Delegation, the United States authorities had withdrawn their objection to the proposed export of two infra-red detector cells by the United Kingdom to Poland. The Delegate explained that the initial United States objections to this export had been based primarily upon the fact that the specifications provided for the P.C. 21 cell had approximated those of a photovoltaic type cell which in the United States was used exclusively in military applications. However, the supplemental data supplied by the United Kingdom Delegation indicated that the cells in question were photoelectromagnetic detectors which had a sensitivity about two orders of magnitude less than that of cryogenically operated photovoltaic types. These United Kingdom units operated at ambient temperatures, did not require bias supplies, and, unlike some United States photoelectromagnetic units, did not appear to be hermetically sealed and were not mounted in such a fashion as to permit easy cryogenic use. Because of their relatively large sensitive area these cells did not lend themselves to systems with high optical gain, high resolution, and rapid scanning rates. Therefore, although the equipment did have some military applications (e.g. anti-collision devices, blind landing systems, infra-red binoculars, and infra-red signalling, to take only applications cited by the United Kingdom authorities), the United States authorities were prepared to concur in this export under the terms of the special policy for Poland.

2. The UNITED KINGDOM Delegate thanked his United States colleague for his statement. He recalled that, when their proposal had been resubmitted in COCOM 3995, the United States Delegation alone had raised an objection. In the light of the above statement, the Delegate concluded that the Committee had now given its approval to his Government's request.